

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Steven B. Binning, DOB 6/1/1945, of Madison, Wisconsin, was convicted of opening, delaying, and detaining United States mail on Tuesday following a two-day trial in federal court in Madison.

At trial, Binning contested that he handled any mail inappropriately and claimed that another former postal employee, Tim Dobson, was solely responsible for any criminal act. Dobson earlier pleaded guilty to the same charge. Binning also argued at trial that the government had not proven that the mail at issue was actually United States mail or that it had ever been opened by anyone.

U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb scheduled sentencing for May 17, 2006, at 1:00 p.m. Binning faces a maximum penalty of five years in prison, a three-year term of supervised release, and a \$250,000 fine.

The charges against Binning were the result of an investigation conducted by United States Postal Inspection Service. Prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul W. Connell.

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